commonly used drugs. Clinical trials indicate that furazolidone, a safe and inexpensive drug is useful in treatment of infection with multiple drug resistant S. typhi.

For control of Malayan filariasis various innovative technologies which are simple, socially acceptable and productive in nature have been developed The usefulness of this strategy in filariasis control has been demonstrated in Shertallai, Kerala State Besides vector control, the filariasis control move ment (FILCO) launched by the community has expanded their activities to parasite control also, through mass drug administration

Leishmaniasis has emerged as a major public health problem in Bihar and adjoining states Increasing number of cases not responding to sodium stibogluconate, the first line drug for treatment of Kala-azar, is being reported, Pentamidine, the second line drug, is expensive, imported and toxic As an alternative, use of drug combinations have been explored Studies have been carried out using combination of pentamidine + sodium stibanate and pentemidine + allopurinol together for the duration recommended for individual drugs but using only half of their usual dose Results showed that the combination were as effective as pentamidine alone

TRADITIONAL MEDICINE RESEARCH

The Department of Science & Technology has informed that in a project entitled "To evaluate the efficacy of an indginous drug (Varuna) in the management of nephrolithiasis (Calcium Oxalate and Phosphate Stores)" sponsored by that Department, the Project Investigator has claimed suffessful use of 'Varuna' an indeginous drug in treating urinary disorders.

In the field of traditional system of medicine, the ICMR identified six refractory disease conditions as thrust areas, namely, Anal fistula, Viral Hepatitis, Diabetes mellitus, Urolithiasis, Bronchial asthma and Filariasis

A significant achievement in this area is the scientific proof provided, through carefully designed and conducted, randomized controlled multicentric trials at 6 centres on the efficacy of Kshaarasootra (Ayurvedic medicated thread) which offers an effective, ambulatory and safe, non-surgical treat ment for patients with fistula-in-ano, as compared to surgery Although the initial healing time with the thread is longer with kashaarsootra than in case of surgery, there is a significantly lower rate of recurrence in patients treated with Kshaara sootra The thread also has better acceptability as it is an outpatient technique (without any need for hospitalization or anesthesia) and therefore more cost-effective, as compared to surgery

Hiring of Private Godowns by F.C.I.

5378 SHRI PAWAN KUMAR BANSAL Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state·

(a) whether the Food Corporation of India has floated a scheme of hiring private godowns exclusively constructed according to its specifications,

(b) if so, the details of the scheme including the initial rent fixed for such godowns;

(c) whether the rent was increased once and thereafter cut down arbitarily; and

(d) the rent being paid as at present?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b). A scheme known as A.R.D.C. scheme was introduced in 1976-77 under which Food Corporation of India (FCI) undertook to hire godowns constructed by private parties as per the required specifications. The rents of these godowns, as per the scheme, were fixed within a ceiling of 50 paise per square foot in urban areas and 40 paise per square foot in rural areas. The godowns were hired for a guaranteed period of five years extendable by one more year at FCI's discretion

(c) and (d). The rents of the godowns were not varied during the guarantee period In cases where the godowns were retained after the guarantee period, the rents payable were negotiated and determined by the zonal/regional heads of FCI under the powers delegated to them.

New Project in the Hindustan Latex Limited, in Kerala

5379. SHRI KODIKKUNIL SURESH: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up any new project in the Hindustan Latex Limited in Kerala;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the achievement of the Hindustan Latex Limited during 1991-92;

(d) whether any foreign countries have offered to assist in the production of condoms in the company; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRIMATI D.K. THARADEVI SIDDHARTHA): (a) and (b) Hindustan Latex Ltd , have plans to set up the following projects in Kerala:

(i) Copper T (IUD) Project

(ii) Centchroman (SAHELI) –Oral Contraceptive Project.

(iii) Blood Bag Project

(iv) Hydrocephalus Shunt Project. In addition, the following projects are in very preliminary stage of formulation by Hindustan Latex Ltd

(i) I.V. Fluid Project

(ii) Urology Catheters Project

(iii) Injectable Contraceptive Project.

(c) Hindustan Latex Ltd. has produced 455 million pcs. of condoms and despatched 411 million pcs from April to December 1991 The total sales turn-over is Rs. 2250 lakhs The same trend is expected to be maintained by the company during January to March 1992

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise

[*Translation*]

Railway Projection Force

5380. SHRI BRIJ BHUSHAN SHARAN SINGH: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state: